

Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District

2490 Main Road - Tiverton, RI 02878 - Phone (401) 830-5763

ERICD Board Meeting

October 12, 2010

7:00 PM

Chairman Walter Elwell called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Present were: Directors Walter Elwell, Emerson Wildes, Richard Hart, Suzanne Hourihan and Ron Mucci; Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee: Melissa Hayden, NRCS; Steve Horowitz.

I. Minutes

The minutes of September 14, 2010 meeting were declared accepted with minor correction.

II. Reports

A. Treasurer's: Bank reconciliation report and a budget year to date report were presented and were declared accepted. State allocation check in the amount of \$17813.00 has been received.

B. Chair: Walter spoke to Ken Ayars regarding 8 Rod Farm Management Area. It is now under the supervision of Fish and Wildlife and Walter has left message with Kathy Sparks regarding the

need to have it mowed and maintained.

He has finalized plans for speaker at Annual Dinner; topic will be butterflies and grassland birds. News release has listed a 10/27 RSVP deadline.

C. Directors:

Dick Hart: An oyster farm in Tiverton may be having another hearing before town council. To be discussed under New Business. Tiverton Tax Assessor expressed concern regarding an enrollee in FFOS. To be discussed under New Business.

Emerson Wildes: Nothing to report.

Ron Mucci: Working to publicize Annual Dinner.

Suzanne: Working to publicize Annual Dinner.

D. Telephone Calls: Nothing to report.

E. Office Use: Office continues to be use by partners.

F: NRCS: Conservationist report will be distributed. Staff currently working on Activity Based Costing as part of a work load analysis.

G. SCC: Three agreements have been signed with NRCS. NRICD will continue the Ag Inventory/Bio-security agreement which is now being channeled through the SCC. New agreements include a Geese Abatement agreement that will be centered in ERICD and led by Doug McGovern, SRICD. A Rivers Assessments agreement, through RIACD, will focus on the Pocasset and Wood Rivers. Led, by Gina DeMarco, NRICD the goal of this agreement is to assess damage caused by spring 2010 flooding and to prioritize projects for NRCS funding.

III. Old Business

A. DIRT/FRESH: One will be selected for viewing after holidays.

B. Annual Dinner Meeting: Ron will organize a table with ERICD information. Board will arrive at 5:30 for event which begins at 6:00.

Al Bettencourt, RI Farm Bureau, will be asked to address group for a few minutes and to bring any handouts he would like to distribute.

C. Hiring Part-time District Manager: Resumes received to date have been emailed to Board. They will be reviewed next month.

IV. New Business

A. Payments to National Grid, Xerox, Farm Family insurance and Farm Bureau were authorized.

B. 8 Rod Management Area: Walter will, with Board approval, continue to work towards getting property mowed.

C. Oyster Farms: Dick will contact Justin Tuthill, NRCS to get contacts to speak at town meetings and CRMC hearings to promote benefits of oyster farming.

D. FFOS Issue: Dick will advise Tax Assessor to send a letter to DEM expressing concern about property enrolled in FFOS that he is concerned about and to ask for the property to be re-evaluated.

E. Sakonnet Vineyards: Report needs to be filed with City of Newport. Walter will review and speak to vineyard owner.

V. Other

Nothing discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.